

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

615 Chestnut Street

Suite 1250 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476 (215) 861-8200

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA – Acting United States Attorney Laurie Magid today announced the filing of an information¹ charging defendant John Austin with one count of bank fraud and attempted bank fraud, and one count of aggravated identity theft. The information alleges that between June 6, 2007 through on or about September 13, 2007, the defendant made fraudulent withdrawals and cashed stolen checks from PNC Bank and Citizens Bank victim bank accounts using the account holder's identifying information.

If convicted, defendant Austin faces a maximum of 32 years imprisonment, with a mandatory minimum of 2 years imprisonment, 5 years of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine and a \$200 special assessment.

DEFENDANT	ADDRESS	AGE
John Austin	Upper Darby, Pennsylvania	Age 44

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and the United States Secret Service, and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Leo R. Tsao.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE Contact: PATTY HARTMAN EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA Media Contact 215-861-8525 Philadelphia, PA 19106

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¹ An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.